

## The Marriage of Elsa and Josef Chotzen



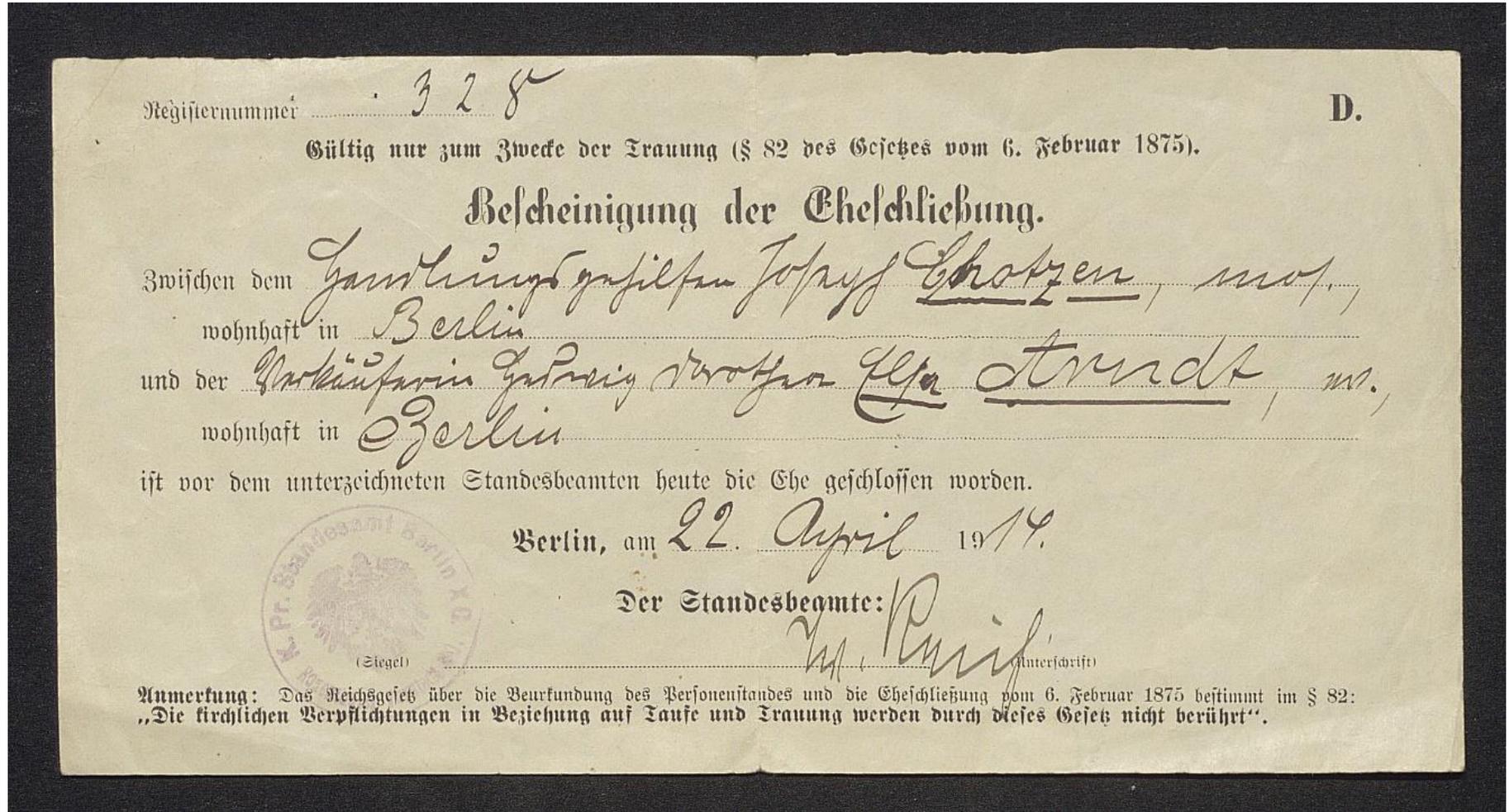
Photo of Josef and Elsa Chotzen, 1930s. Source: GHWK Archiv

Elsa Arndt and Josef Chotzen met in Cottbus. Elsa came from a Protestant family; Josef’s family was Jewish.

Although Jewish-Christian marriages were legally permitted, both families opposed the marriage. As a consequence, Eppi, their first son, was born out of wedlock in 1907. Elsa and Josef were finally able to get married in Berlin in 1914. Elsa converted to Judaism at the wedding.

*“My father was a ‘full Jew’ and my mother’s great, single, unshakeable love. But she had to fight a tough battle for years before she overcame my father’s family’s opposition to the marriage. Through perseverance she finally won not only the respect but also the love of the entire family. When she got married, she converted to Judaism out of conviction.”*

*Eppi Chotzen’s memoirs, 1980s. Source: GHWK Archiv*



Elsa and Josef Chotzen's marriage certificate, 1941. Source: GHWK Archiv



## First Decree of the Reich Citizenship Law



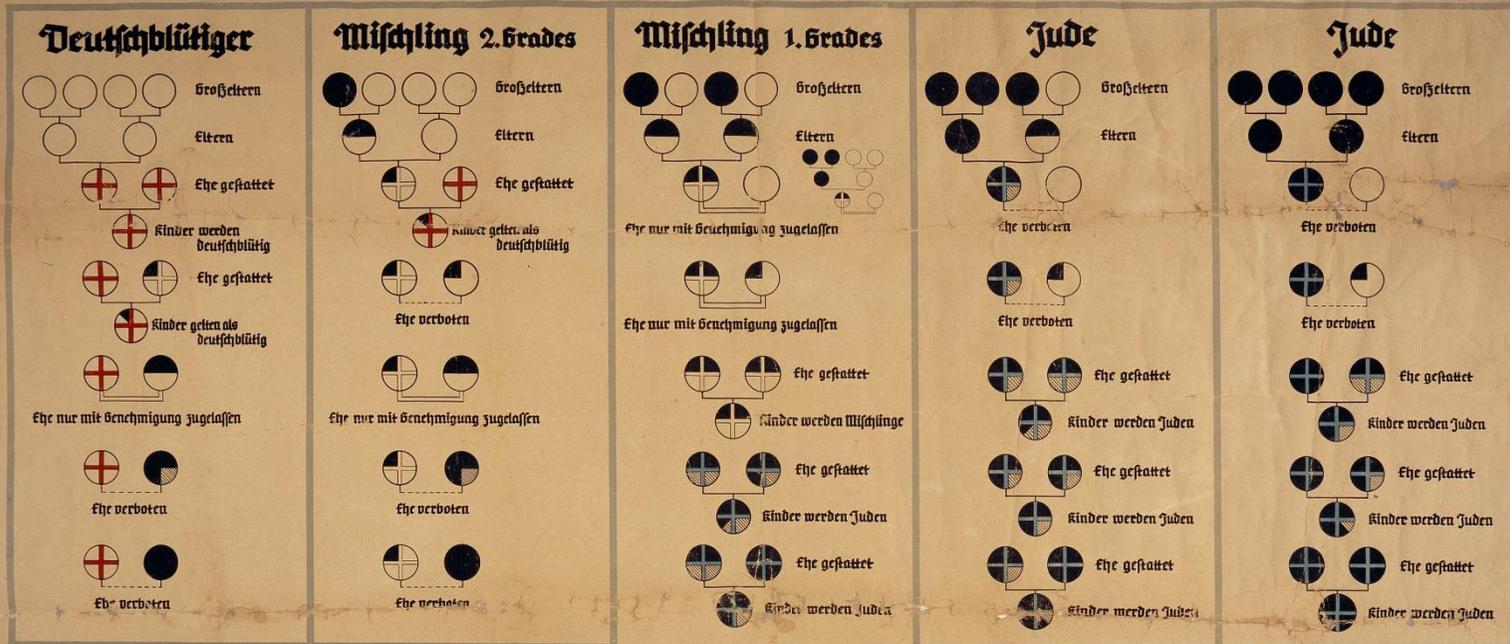
The first decree on the “Reich Citizenship Law” was issued on 14 November 1935. It determined who was Jewish according to Nazi law. Anyone with three or four Jewish grandparents was considered Jewish. Anyone who had two Jewish grandparents was considered “half-Jewish” or a “mixed-race Jew”. The decree specified to whom the anti-Jewish laws applied.

Chart of the Nuremberg Laws, 1936.  
Source: United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Collection

Decree:

Some 2,000 anti-Jewish laws and decrees were passed under the Nazis. Decrees stipulate how certain laws are to be carried out.

# Die Nürnberger Gesetze



**Reichsbürgergesetz vom 15. 9. 1935**  
1. Verordnung vom 14. 11. 1935

Das Reichsbürgerrecht ist in jedem einzelnen Falle von der Vererbung abhängig

**Gesetz zum Schutze des deutschen Blutes und der deutschen Ehre vom 15. 9. 1935**  
1. Verordnung vom 14. 11. 1935

Bestehende Ehen bleiben unberührt

Reichsgesetzblatt Nr. I  
S. 100 vom 16. 9. 1935  
Nr. 115 vom 14. 11. 1935

## In the Berlin Sports Club 1892



Bubi Chotzen's photo album, 1940s © Privately owned

"I only really understood how valuable sport is for body and mind when it was taken from me!"

"Health and camaraderie, founded in sport, helped a hard and dark time feel short!"

All four Chotzen brothers were enthusiastic athletes and popular members of the Berlin Sports Club (BSV) 1892. In the Wilmersdorf club they played on the hockey, handball and football teams. In 1933, many sports clubs began excluding their Jewish members, even though there was no legal basis for this. The Chotzen brothers remained club members until the summer of 1937 when they were forced to leave their club.



Pin of the Berlin Sports Club 1892. Source: GHWK Archiv



## In the "Jewish Sports Association 1933"



The handball team of JSG33, 1938. In the back row: Erich (3rd from left) and Bubi Chotzen (5th from left), in the front row: Ullrich Chotzen (2nd from left).  
Source: GHWK Archiv

In the summer of 1937, the Chotzen brothers were expelled from their sports club because of their Jewish origins. To continue playing sports, they had to join a Jewish club. They joined the "Jewish Sports Association 1933". This allowed them to continue playing sports, but they were socially isolated. Shortly after the November pogroms, all Jewish clubs were banned. After that, Jews had no legal way of participating in sports.

### November pogroms:

Pogroms are spontaneous violent attacks by the population against a socially excluded group. However, the pogroms on 9 and 10 November 1938, cynically called *Reichskristallnacht* (Night of Broken Glass), were organised in advance by the Nazi regime. Hundreds of Jews were mistreated and murdered; thousands of synagogues, shops and homes were destroyed.

1938 Jüdische Sport Gemeinschaft 1933.



1. Handballmannschaft.

## Elsa's Reich Identity Card from 1940



Elsa's Reich identity card, 1940. Source: GHWK Archiv

The Nazis divided the German population into a Jewish part and an "Aryan" part. Since Jews did not possess any biological characteristics distinguishing them from "Aryans", religious affiliation became the deciding factor. Although Elsa Chotzen had converted to Judaism, she was still regarded as "Aryan". Her religious affiliation was not noted on her identity card. Elsa used her status as an "Aryan" to help her family.

### Aryan:

The Nazis claimed that there were different races of people. According to their ideology, the German "Aryan race" had more value than the "Jewish race".

Kennort:	<i>Berlin</i>
Kennummer:	<i>A 463573</i>
Gültig bis:	<i>5. Oktober</i> 19 <i>45</i>
Name:	<i>Chotzen geb. Arndt</i>
Vornamen:	<i>Julia, Rosa, Elsa,</i>
Geburtstag:	<i>31. Oktober 1887</i>
Geburtsort:	<i>Lottbüh</i>
Beruf:	<i>frau</i>
Unveränderliche Kennzeichen:	<i>faulan</i>
Veränderliche Kennzeichen:	<i>faulan</i>
Bemerkungen:	<i>Arina</i>

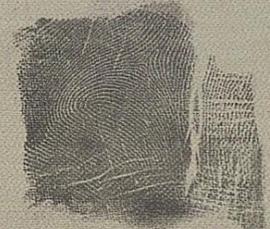
  



Rechter Zeigefinger



Linker Zeigefinger



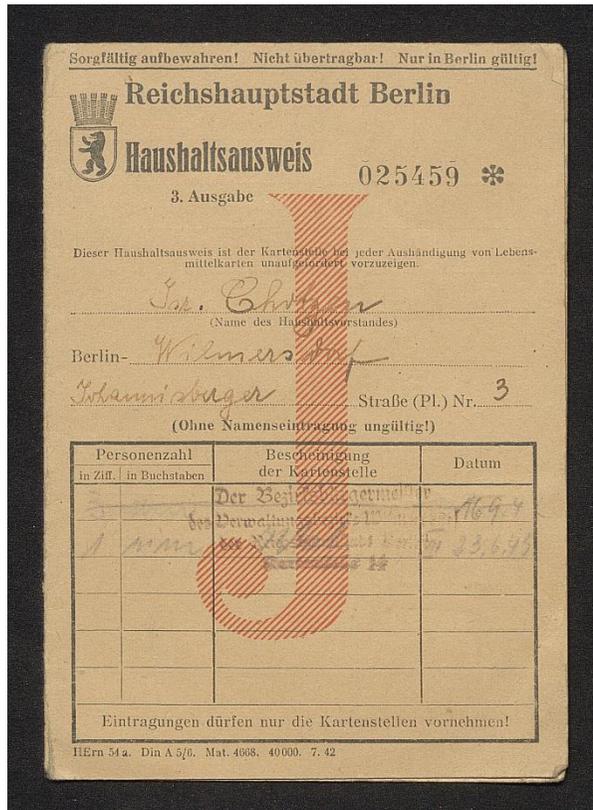
*Elsa Chotzen geb. Arndt*  
(Unterschrift des Kennkarteninhabers)

Berlin, den *5. Oktober* 19 *40*  
**Staatliche Polizei** **Polizeipräsident in Berlin**  
**158. Polizeirevier**  
 (Ausstellende Behörde)  
*G. A. Pöck*  
 (Unterschrift des ausfertigenden Beamten)

Gebühr: *1 RM.*  
 Geb.-Buch Nr. *578/40*



## The Chotzen Family's Household ID



The Chotzen family's household ID, 1943.  
Source: GHWK Archiv

The Chotzen family had to present this household ID to receive food ration cards. As of 1939, it was impossible to buy food without it. The household ID and ration cards were marked with a red J because the head of the household, Josef Chotzen, was Jewish. Jews received less food and household goods than the rest of the population. Towards the end of the war, the amount they received was below the subsistence level.

### Food ration cards:

During the Second World War (1939-1945), the authorities used ration cards to allocate food and textiles. They entitled people to buy food in certain quantities.



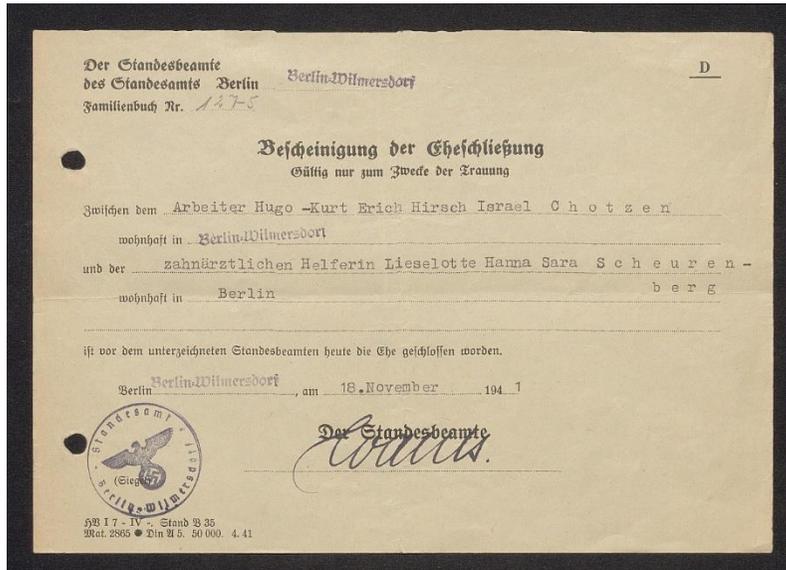
# The History of the Chotzen Family

## AG "Race Law" and Its Impact

GEDENK- UND  
BILDUNGSSTÄTTE  
HAUS DER  
WANNSEE-KONFERENZ

A. Gemüse		27	43	59	75	83	B.	
		28	44	60	76	89	1	13
		29	45	61	77	90	2	14
1	4. Jan. 1943	30	46	62	78	91	3	15
2	15	31	47	63	79	92	4	16
3	16	32	48	64	80	93	5	17
4	17	33	49	65	81	94	6	18
5	18	34	50	66	82	95	7	19
6	19	35	51	67	83	96	8	20
7	20	36	52	68	84	97	9	21 <i>unvollständig</i>
8	21	37	53	69	85	98	10	
9	22	38	54	70	86	99	11	23 <i>unvollständig</i>
10	23	39	55	71	87	100	12	
11	24	40	56	72				
12	25	41	57	73				
13	26	42	58	74				

## Lisa and Bubi Chotzen's Wedding on 18 November 1941



Bubi and Lisa Chotzen's wedding certificate, 1941. Source: GHWK Archiv

### Israel, Sara:

As of January 1939, all Jews were forced to use the first names Sara and Israel.

Bubi Chotzen and Lisa Scheurenberg married on 18 November 1941. They had met in the "Jewish Sports Association". In 1941, Erich and Ullrich also married their Jewish girlfriends, Ilse Schwarz and Ruth Cohn. After the war, Lisa's brother, Klaus, surmised that the Chotzen brothers may have hoped that through their status as "half Jews" they would be able to protect their wives. But the effect was the opposite: Because of their marriage, the brothers were treated under Nazi law as "full Jews". They couldn't have known what negative consequences this definition would have for them.

*"Lisa, my eldest sister, got engaged on 14 September 1940. (...) Hugo-Kurt Chotzen was the second of four sons. His father was Jewish, his mother Christian, 'Aryan'. (...) The young couple was, evidently, quite ill-advised, for their marriage brought misfortune upon them both. (...) My brother-in-law could have lived with his mother in peace. (...) But he and his two younger brothers wanted to do good and married Jewish girls. They all moved in with the Aryan mother. They did not know that through their marriage they acquired the status of three-quarter Jews. They were henceforth treated as full Jews."*

Source: Klaus Scheurenberg: *Ich will leben. Ein autobiographischer Bericht*, Berlin 1982, S. 65f.



Der Standesbeamte  
des Standesamts Berlin Berlin-Wilmersdorf  
Familienbuch Nr. 1275

D

### Bescheinigung der Eheschließung

Gültig nur zum Zwecke der Trauung

Zwischen dem Arbeiter Hugo -Kurt Erich Hirsch Israel Chotzen

wohnhaft in Berlin-Wilmersdorf

und der zahnärztlichen Helferin Lieselotte Hanna Sara Scheuren-

wohnhaft in Berlin berg

ist vor dem unterzeichneten Standesbeamten heute die Ehe geschlossen worden.

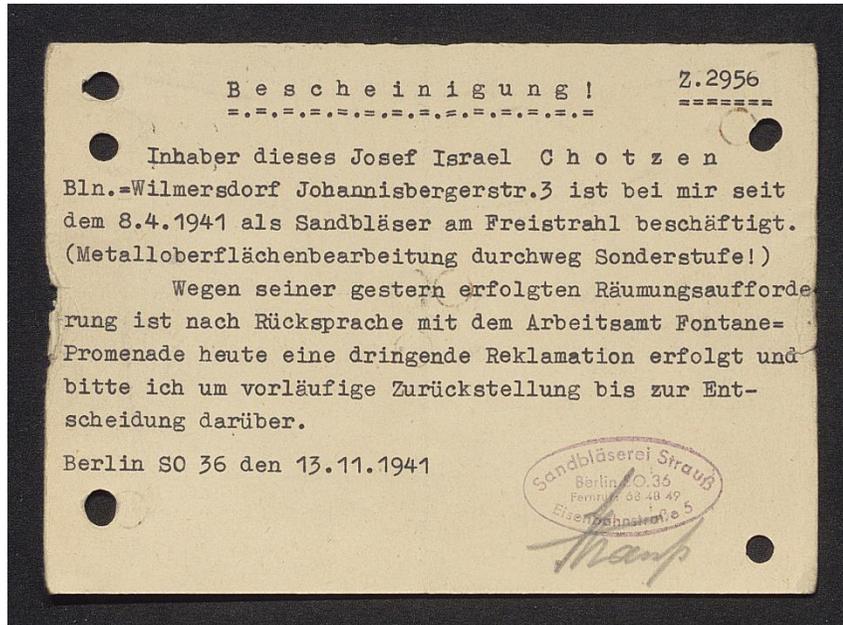
Berlin Berlin-Wilmersdorf, am 18. November 1941



Der Standesbeamte



## Eppi's Postponed Deportation



In 1940, Eppi Chotzen had to perform forced labour for the Strauß company. His tasks there included producing munitions parts for the Wehrmacht. He received a summons for deportation in November 1941. He was probably supposed to be deported to the Minsk ghetto in occupied Belarus on 14 November. But the Strauß company did what it could to keep their forced labourer in Berlin. They classified his work as “indispensable” and achieved a postponement of his deportation. Performing forced labour that was vital to the war effort, however, did not always offer protection from deportation.

Request for a deferment of Eppi Chotzen's deportation, 1941. Source: GHWK Archiv

### Israel, Sara:

As of January 1939, all Jews were forced to use the first names Sara and Israel.



## The History of the Chotzen Family

### AG Reactions to the Persecution and Threat of Deportation

#### Letter of Confirmation!

Z. 2956

Josef Israel Chotzen, Bln.-Wilmersdorf Johannisbergerstr. 3, has been employed by me since 8.4.1941 as a sandblaster on the open jet. (Metal surface processing is a specialised level!)

After consultation with the Fontane-Promenade Labour Office, an urgent objection was issued today regarding his eviction notice yesterday, and I ask for a provisional deferment until a decision has been made.

Berlin SO 36, 13.11.1941

Strauß Sandblasting Shop  
Berlin SO 36  
Phone: 684849  
Eisenbahnstraße 5



## The History of the Chotzen Family

### AG Reactions to the Persecution and Threat of Deportation

## The Last Family Photo



From left to right: Božka, Lisa, Bubi, Elsa, Ulli and Ruth on Elsa's 55th birthday, 1942. Source: GHWK Archiv

The Chotzen family was dealt several heavy blows in 1942. Erich and Ilse were deported to Riga on 19 January. Josef Chotzen died on 27 January. All three sons and daughter-in-law Ruth had to do forced labour. No one knew if they too would soon be deported. Despite all of this, the family tried to maintain their daily routine and family life. On 31 October 1942, Elsa celebrated her 55th birthday. This was when Eppi took the last photograph of the family together.



## The History of the Chotzen Family

### AG Reactions to the Persecution and Threat of Deportation

GEDENK- UND  
BILDUNGSSTÄTTE  
HAUS DER  
WANNSEE-KONFERENZ





## Going Underground



Ilse and Werner Rewald after coming out of hiding in 1945.  
Source: Gedenkstätte Deutscher Widerstand

Ilse Rewald (1918-2005) and her husband Werner (1907-1992) were friends with the Chotzen family. As deportations became more frequent in 1943, they made the decision to go into hiding. They no longer had valid identity papers and lived in constant danger. Thanks to the help of several non-Jewish Berliners, they were able to survive until the end of the war. Some people hid them in their homes, others gave them illegal work or provided them with food. Elsa Chotzen also supported them. Approximately 1,700 Jews survived in hiding in Berlin.

#### November pogroms:

Pogroms are spontaneous violent attacks by the population against a socially excluded group. However, the pogroms on 9 and 10 November 1938, cynically called *Reichskristallnacht* (Night of Broken Glass), were organised in advance by the Nazi regime. Hundreds of Jews were mistreated and murdered; thousands of synagogues, shops and homes were destroyed.



## The History of the Chotzen Family

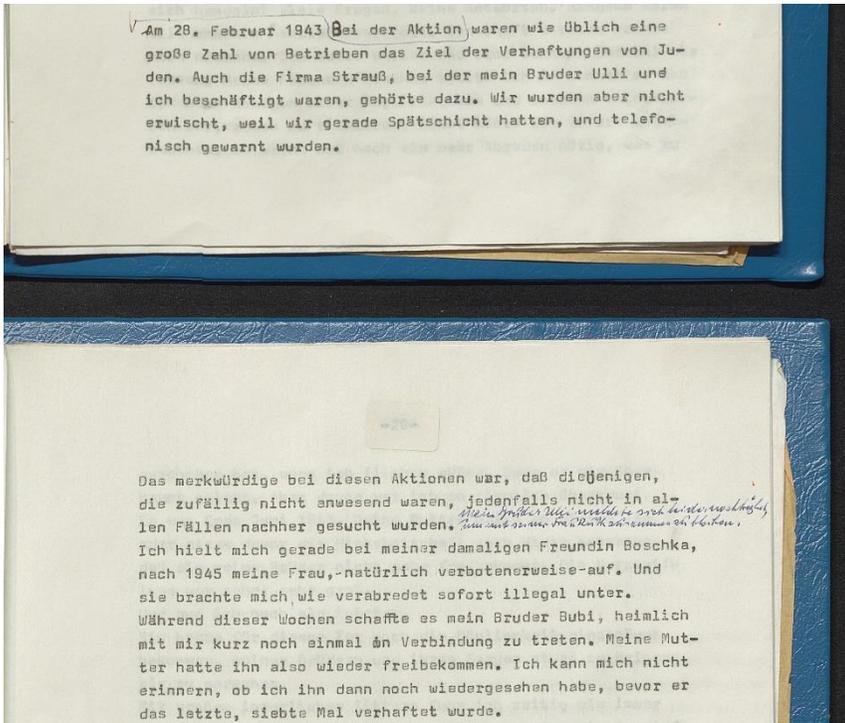
### AG Reactions to the Persecution and Threat of Deportation

*“I met the Chotzen family through Ilse Schwarz, the sister of my friend Ruth Schwarz, with whom I attended the Jewish commercial school in 1935. As Jews, we all had the same worries and problems during the Nazi era, and after the pogrom night on 9 November 1938, we didn't even feel safe in our own homes. The outbreak of war destroyed our hopes of emigrating. The people who were affected by the endless new laws and regulations on discrimination, persecution and exclusion, however, formed intense friendships during this time. In the Chotzen home, the four brothers and their parents tried to stay optimistic. They often invited the boys' friends over, including my husband and me. (...) Elsa Chotzen was like a mother to us during our time in hiding. She didn't hesitate to keep my suitcase with letters, photos and my diary under her sofa. During our visits she lovingly entertained us and shared her meals with us as a matter of course. (...) During our time in hiding, that was a ray of hope, an inspiration to persevere, and when I visited Eppi, he fetched his violin and played for me because he knew how much music meant to me.“*

*Recollections of Ilse Rewald. Source: Barbara Schieb: Nachricht von Chotzen „Wer immer hofft, stirbt singend“, Berlin 2000, S. 161.*



## The “Factory Action”



In early 1943, there were still about 15,100 Jewish forced labourers living in Berlin. During the “factory action” on 27 February 1943, 11,000 of them were imprisoned. They were taken to transit camps and deported to Auschwitz. Ruth Chotzen was also arrested. Her husband Ullrich handed himself in so that he could be with her. They were both released after the Rosenstrasse protests (see worksheet). Eppi escaped arrest by chance. His girlfriend Božka helped him hide illegally for a time.

Excerpt from Eppi Chotzen’s memoirs, 1980s. Source: GHWK Archiv



## The History of the Chotzen Family

### AG Reactions to the Persecution and Threat of Deportation

[During the action] on 28 February 1943, a large number of businesses were once again targeted to arrest the Jews. The Strauß company, where my brother Ulli and I were employed, was among them. We were not caught, however, because we were working the late shift and had been warned by telephone.

The strange thing about these actions was that those who happened to be absent were not searched for afterwards, at least not all of them. [My brother Ulli unfortunately reported himself later so that he could stay with his wife Ruth].

I was staying with my girlfriend Boschka at the time, she became my wife after 1945 – and this was forbidden, of course. And she immediately took me in illegally, as had been arranged.

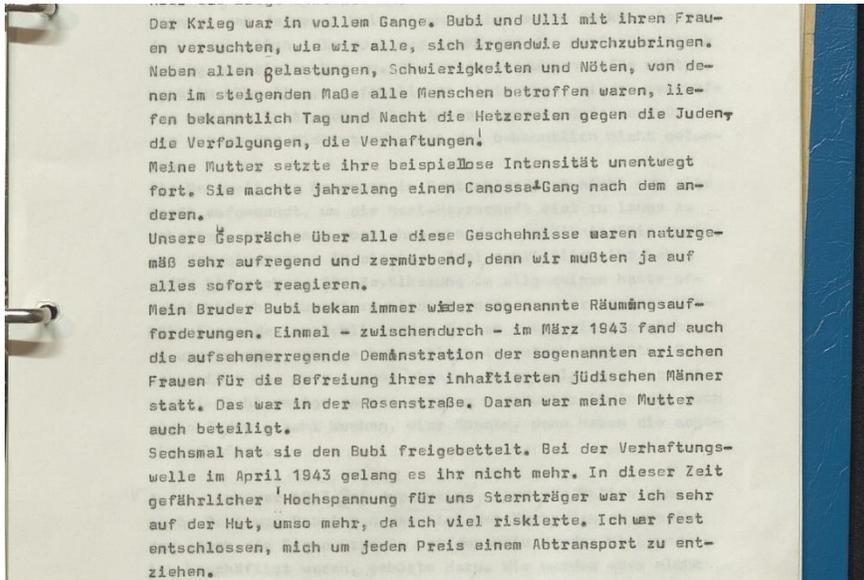
During those weeks, my brother Bubi managed to briefly get in touch with me secretly again. So my mother had managed once more to get him released. I can't remember if I saw him again before he was arrested for the seventh and last time.



## The History of the Chotzen Family

### AG Reactions to the Persecution and Threat of Deportation

## Elsa's Dedication and the Rosenstrasse Protests



Excerpt from Eppei Chotzen's memoirs, 1980s. Source: GHWK Archiv

Elsa used her status as an “Aryan” to tirelessly help her family. Eppei reports that she was able to protect Bubi from deportation several times. After the "factory action" (see worksheet), she also joined the Rosenstrasse protests. “Aryan” family members gathered in front of the transit camp in Rosenstrasse to demand the release of their relatives. This was the largest spontaneous protest to take place in the German Reich.

#### Aryan:

The Nazis claimed that there were different races of people. According to their ideology, the German "Aryan race" had more value than the "Jewish race".

#### “Jewish star”:

As of 15 September 1941, Jews in the German Reich had to sew a yellow star with the word “Jew” on it onto their clothes. This identified them as Jews and exposed them to public discrimination.



## The History of the Chotzen Family

### AG Reactions to the Persecution and Threat of Deportation

The war was in full swing. Bubi and Ulli with their friends, like all of us, tried to get by somehow. In addition to all the burdens, difficulties and hardships that were affecting everyone more and more, the agitations against the Jews – the persecutions, the arrests – continued day and night.

My mother continued tirelessly with her unparalleled intensity. For years she had to go to eat humble pie over and over again.

Of course, our talks about all these events were very stressful and gruelling because we had to react to everything immediately.

My brother Bubi kept getting so-called eviction notices. One time – at some point in March 1943 – the so-called Aryan women took part in a sensational demonstration demanding that their imprisoned Jewish men be released. That was in Rosenstrasse. My mother was also involved in that.

She begged for Bubi's release six times. In the wave of arrests in April 1943 she didn't succeed. During this very tense time for us star bearers, I was very alert, especially because I was risking so much. I was determined to avoid deportation at all costs.

## Rescued from Deportation



Klaus Scheurenberg in 1939 at the age of 14.  
Source: Klaus Scheurenberg: Ich will leben.  
Ein autobiographischer Bericht, Berlin 1982, S. 55.

After their wedding, Bubi and Lisa Chotzen moved in with Lisa's parents in Elsässer Strasse. On 13 December 1942, the building's eighty or so Jewish residents were picked up by the Gestapo and taken to a transit camp. Lisa and Bubi were also imprisoned. After the war, their brother Klaus described how his father Paul Scheurenberg successfully obtained their release. A family member's intervention could sometimes lead to a person's release from prison. But this required good connections and a lot of luck.

#### Gestapo:

The Secret State Police was the political police in Nazi Germany. Its job was to fight political opposition and persecute the Jewish population.

#### "Geltungsjude":

A term for a "mixed-race Jew" who belonged to the Jewish religious community or was married to a Jewish person. They were treated according to the law as "full Jews." The three younger Chotzen brothers fell into this category after they married Jewish women in 1941.



## The History of the Chotzen Family

### AG Reactions to the Persecution and Threat of Deportation

*“As soon as the Gestapo entered the building, my father went to see the senior officer he knew. He had us deferred. We crept away, but Lisa and her husband had to go. A terrible night followed, for those in the camp and for us. I crawled into bed and cried. I had escaped once again, but only because my father knew someone. Lucky again - or a miracle? Our father was a somewhat anxious, sensitive person. But when it came to his children, he became a hero. He went to the SS camp commander first thing Monday morning. The worrying question was whether he would say, ‘daughter and son-in-law will be released’ or, what was more likely, that father would have to stay there and we would be brought in too. Father made his request as bravely as he could, and stressed that his son-in-law was a Geltungsjude. The SS man, busy and disinterested, said he would think about it. Our father took a seat on a bench outside the door of the office. Hours later the officer came out of the room, but paid no attention to father. Later he came back and addressed him, ‘What do you want?’ Father: ‘I am waiting for you to release my daughter.’ The commander, bored, “Fine, take her with you.” He signaled to his guard. - The two had not expected to be released and were stunned when father got them out. Now, to do it right, they moved right in with my brother-in-law’s ‘Aryan’ mother.”*

Source: Klaus Scheurenberg: *Ich will leben. Ein autobiographischer Bericht*, Berlin 1982, S. 92f.



## Suicide before Deportation



Klaus Scheurenberg in 1939 at the age of 14.  
Source: Klaus Scheurenberg: Ich will leben.  
Ein autobiographischer Bericht, Berlin 1982, S. 55.

The precarious situation in the 1940s became a torment for many Jews. They were totally isolated socially and suffered discrimination and harassment. They could be summoned for deportation at any moment. Emigration had been banned, and for many, going underground was not an option. Some, especially older Jews, felt they had no other choice but to take their own lives. In his book, Klaus Scheurenberg describes the suicide of an elderly woman who lived with Lisa and Bubi in Elsässer Strasse.



## The History of the Chotzen Family

### AG Reactions to the Persecution and Threat of Deportation

*“She [Lisa] and brother-in-law Hugo-Kurt needed a flat. They got a room on the ground floor of our building. The flat belonged to a humble old lady, a former teacher, who lived discreetly in our house. She was content with a small room, sharing the kitchen and bathroom with Lisa. They got along well. (...) In early 1942, the old lady received the "lists". This meant her deportation to a concentration camp was imminent. She wasn't seen again after that. We thought she had gone into hiding somewhere, “gone underground” like so many others. Her room was locked, the windows were covered tightly. For days, no one paid it any attention. We were all preoccupied with ourselves. But then Lisa came and said she had a terrible suspicion. There was a strange smell coming from the room. Father, brother-in-law and I opened the window with difficulty. They hoisted me inside. I crawled into the room. Inside, a terrible air came towards me. I stood paralysed in semi-darkness in front of the bed where the old lady's body lay. (...) I will never forget the old lady's farewell letter that we found on the bedside table. With good wishes for Lisa and Kurt. With the message that she was glad to have lived her life. She had experienced so many beautiful things, seen so much, read so much. (...) She wrote in her slightly old-fashioned way that she didn't know why, after all that beauty, her life should end in misery and agony.”*

Source: Klaus Scheurenberg: *Ich will leben. Ein autobiographischer Bericht*, Berlin 1982, S. 68-70.



## Disregarding Anti-Jewish Laws



Photos of Lisa and Bubi Chotzen at Unter den Linden and the Brandenburg Gate, 1941.  
Source: Bubi Chotzen's photo album, 1940s © Privately owned

The countless anti-Jewish laws imposed massive restrictions on the everyday lives of Jews. Since December 1938, for example, Jews were no longer allowed to enter the Berlin-Mitte district. Some people engaged in small forbidden acts as a way to retain a degree of self-determination. On 22 June 1941, the day Germany invaded the Soviet Union, Lisa and Bubi took an illegal walk to the Brandenburg Gate. They photographed each other there. These are the last photos in Bubi's photo album.

### Anti-Jewish laws:

The Nazis passed some 2,000 anti-Jewish laws and decrees. They included curfews, restrictions on freedom of movement and the requirement to hand over property.



## The History of the Chotzen Family

### AG Reactions to the Persecution and Threat of Deportation

GEDENK- UND  
BILDUNGSSTÄTTE  
HAUS DER  
WANNSEE-KONFERENZ



Unter den Linden. 1941



Brandenburger Tor. 1941



## Deportation to the Riga Ghetto on 19 January 1942

**Transportliste**

73 35 3

LL. No.	N a m e	Vorname	geb. am	Ort	Beruf	heir.	rech.	Alter	ehel. Verh.	Ort	Wohnung	Strasse	Post-Num.	früheres No.	Bemerkungen
31	Croner	Hans	5. 1. 11	Berlin	Techniker	ja	ja	30	ja	0 117, Ringstrasse 9		A 100/45	5247		
32	Croner	Ursula	2. 5. 17	Berlin	Kind	ja	ja	4	1	ditto		100/45	5248		
33	Chobels	Joseph	18. 12. 17	Petersburg	arb.	ja	ja	20	ja	11, Ringstr. 17		100/45	5249		
34	Chobels	Ida	27. 7. 18	Berlin	Kind	ja	ja	9	ja	11, Ringstr. 17		100/45	5250		
35	Chobels	Ida	27. 7. 18	Berlin	Kind	ja	ja	9	ja	11, Ringstr. 17		100/45	5251		
36	Chobels	Ida	27. 7. 18	Berlin	Kind	ja	ja	9	ja	11, Ringstr. 17		100/45	5252		
37	Chobels	Ida	27. 7. 18	Berlin	Kind	ja	ja	9	ja	11, Ringstr. 17		100/45	5253		
38	Chotzen	Erich	30. 1. 17	Berlin	Premer	ja	ja	25	ja	11, Ringstr. 17		100/45	5254		
39	Chotzen	Ilse	27. 5. 18	Berlin	arb.	ja	ja	24	ja	ditto		100/45	5255		
40	Chotzen	Ilse	27. 5. 18	Berlin	arb.	ja	ja	24	ja	ditto		100/45	5256		
41	Chotzen	Ilse	27. 5. 18	Berlin	arb.	ja	ja	24	ja	ditto		100/45	5257		
42	Chotzen	Ilse	27. 5. 18	Berlin	arb.	ja	ja	24	ja	ditto		100/45	5258		
43	Chotzen	Ilse	27. 5. 18	Berlin	arb.	ja	ja	24	ja	ditto		100/45	5259		
44	Chotzen	Ilse	27. 5. 18	Berlin	arb.	ja	ja	24	ja	ditto		100/45	5260		
45	Chotzen	Ilse	27. 5. 18	Berlin	arb.	ja	ja	24	ja	ditto		100/45	5261		
46	Chotzen	Ilse	27. 5. 18	Berlin	arb.	ja	ja	24	ja	ditto		100/45	5262		
47	Chotzen	Ilse	27. 5. 18	Berlin	arb.	ja	ja	24	ja	ditto		100/45	5263		
48	Chotzen	Ilse	27. 5. 18	Berlin	arb.	ja	ja	24	ja	ditto		100/45	5264		
49	Chotzen	Ilse	27. 5. 18	Berlin	arb.	ja	ja	24	ja	ditto		100/45	5265		
50	Chotzen	Ilse	27. 5. 18	Berlin	arb.	ja	ja	24	ja	ditto		100/45	5266		
51	Chotzen	Ilse	27. 5. 18	Berlin	arb.	ja	ja	24	ja	ditto		100/45	5267		
52	Chotzen	Ilse	27. 5. 18	Berlin	arb.	ja	ja	24	ja	ditto		100/45	5268		
53	Chotzen	Ilse	27. 5. 18	Berlin	arb.	ja	ja	24	ja	ditto		100/45	5269		
54	Chotzen	Ilse	27. 5. 18	Berlin	arb.	ja	ja	24	ja	ditto		100/45	5270		
55	Chotzen	Ilse	27. 5. 18	Berlin	arb.	ja	ja	24	ja	ditto		100/45	5271		
56	Chotzen	Ilse	27. 5. 18	Berlin	arb.	ja	ja	24	ja	ditto		100/45	5272		
57	Chotzen	Ilse	27. 5. 18	Berlin	arb.	ja	ja	24	ja	ditto		100/45	5273		
58	Chotzen	Ilse	27. 5. 18	Berlin	arb.	ja	ja	24	ja	ditto		100/45	5274		
59	Chotzen	Ilse	27. 5. 18	Berlin	arb.	ja	ja	24	ja	ditto		100/45	5275		
60	Chotzen	Ilse	27. 5. 18	Berlin	arb.	ja	ja	24	ja	ditto		100/45	5276		
61	Chotzen	Ilse	27. 5. 18	Berlin	arb.	ja	ja	24	ja	ditto		100/45	5277		
62	Chotzen	Ilse	27. 5. 18	Berlin	arb.	ja	ja	24	ja	ditto		100/45	5278		
63	Chotzen	Ilse	27. 5. 18	Berlin	arb.	ja	ja	24	ja	ditto		100/45	5279		
64	Chotzen	Ilse	27. 5. 18	Berlin	arb.	ja	ja	24	ja	ditto		100/45	5280		
65	Chotzen	Ilse	27. 5. 18	Berlin	arb.	ja	ja	24	ja	ditto		100/45	5281		
66	Chotzen	Ilse	27. 5. 18	Berlin	arb.	ja	ja	24	ja	ditto		100/45	5282		
67	Chotzen	Ilse	27. 5. 18	Berlin	arb.	ja	ja	24	ja	ditto		100/45	5283		
68	Chotzen	Ilse	27. 5. 18	Berlin	arb.	ja	ja	24	ja	ditto		100/45	5284		
69	Chotzen	Ilse	27. 5. 18	Berlin	arb.	ja	ja	24	ja	ditto		100/45	5285		
70	Chotzen	Ilse	27. 5. 18	Berlin	arb.	ja	ja	24	ja	ditto		100/45	5286		
71	Chotzen	Ilse	27. 5. 18	Berlin	arb.	ja	ja	24	ja	ditto		100/45	5287		
72	Chotzen	Ilse	27. 5. 18	Berlin	arb.	ja	ja	24	ja	ditto		100/45	5288		
73	Chotzen	Ilse	27. 5. 18	Berlin	arb.	ja	ja	24	ja	ditto		100/45	5289		
74	Chotzen	Ilse	27. 5. 18	Berlin	arb.	ja	ja	24	ja	ditto		100/45	5290		
75	Chotzen	Ilse	27. 5. 18	Berlin	arb.	ja	ja	24	ja	ditto		100/45	5291		
76	Chotzen	Ilse	27. 5. 18	Berlin	arb.	ja	ja	24	ja	ditto		100/45	5292		
77	Chotzen	Ilse	27. 5. 18	Berlin	arb.	ja	ja	24	ja	ditto		100/45	5293		
78	Chotzen	Ilse	27. 5. 18	Berlin	arb.	ja	ja	24	ja	ditto		100/45	5294		
79	Chotzen	Ilse	27. 5. 18	Berlin	arb.	ja	ja	24	ja	ditto		100/45	5295		
80	Chotzen	Ilse	27. 5. 18	Berlin	arb.	ja	ja	24	ja	ditto		100/45	5296		
81	Chotzen	Ilse	27. 5. 18	Berlin	arb.	ja	ja	24	ja	ditto		100/45	5297		
82	Chotzen	Ilse	27. 5. 18	Berlin	arb.	ja	ja	24	ja	ditto		100/45	5298		
83	Chotzen	Ilse	27. 5. 18	Berlin	arb.	ja	ja	24	ja	ditto		100/45	5299		
84	Chotzen	Ilse	27. 5. 18	Berlin	arb.	ja	ja	24	ja	ditto		100/45	5300		
85	Chotzen	Ilse	27. 5. 18	Berlin	arb.	ja	ja	24	ja	ditto		100/45	5301		
86	Chotzen	Ilse	27. 5. 18	Berlin	arb.	ja	ja	24	ja	ditto		100/45	5302		
87	Chotzen	Ilse	27. 5. 18	Berlin	arb.	ja	ja	24	ja	ditto		100/45	5303		
88	Chotzen	Ilse	27. 5. 18	Berlin	arb.	ja	ja	24	ja	ditto		100/45	5304		
89	Chotzen	Ilse	27. 5. 18	Berlin	arb.	ja	ja	24	ja	ditto		100/45	5305		
90	Chotzen	Ilse	27. 5. 18	Berlin	arb.	ja	ja	24	ja	ditto		100/45	5306		
91	Chotzen	Ilse	27. 5. 18	Berlin	arb.	ja	ja	24	ja	ditto		100/45	5307		
92	Chotzen	Ilse	27. 5. 18	Berlin	arb.	ja	ja	24	ja	ditto		100/45	5308		
93	Chotzen	Ilse	27. 5. 18	Berlin	arb.	ja	ja	24	ja	ditto		100/45	5309		
94	Chotzen	Ilse	27. 5. 18	Berlin	arb.	ja	ja	24	ja	ditto		100/45	5310		
95	Chotzen	Ilse	27. 5. 18	Berlin	arb.	ja	ja	24	ja	ditto		100/45	5311		
96	Chotzen	Ilse	27. 5. 18	Berlin	arb.	ja	ja	24	ja	ditto		100/45	5312		
97	Chotzen	Ilse	27. 5. 18	Berlin	arb.	ja	ja	24	ja	ditto		100/45	5313		
98	Chotzen	Ilse	27. 5. 18	Berlin	arb.	ja	ja	24	ja	ditto		100/45	5314		
99	Chotzen	Ilse	27. 5. 18	Berlin	arb.	ja	ja	24	ja	ditto		100/45	5315		
100	Chotzen	Ilse	27. 5. 18	Berlin	arb.	ja	ja	24	ja	ditto		100/45	5316		

On 19 January 1942, Käthe, Ilse and Erich were deported from Grunewald station to Riga along with 999 other Jewish Berliners. The ghetto had been built for Latvian Jews in 1941. Nearly all of them were shot in the winter of 1941 to make room for people arriving from the German Reich. Thousands of Jews were forced to live together in cramped quarters and perform forced labour. The ghetto was closed in late 1943. The inmates were either shot or deported to the Auschwitz concentration camp.

Source: Transport list of 1,002 people on the 9th Eastern Transport to Riga on 19/01/1942, 1.2.1./127187405/ ITS Digital Archive, Arolsen Archives



## Transportliste

73

3

73

Lfd. Nr.	Name	Vorname	geb. am	Ort	Beruf	ledig	verh.	Alter	arbeits- fähig	Wohnung	Kennkarten- Nr.	Kennzeichen- Nr.	Bemerkungen
31	Groner	Hilma <del>Leber</del>	9. 1. 11	Berlin	Stuhler	ja		30	ja	o 112, Jungfernst. 9	A 225/43	5247	
32	Groner	Wanda <del>Leber</del>	2. 9. 17	Berlin	Kind	ja		4	z	dito	225	5248	
33	Chabela	Sophie	28.12.09	Petersburg	Arb.	ja		42		N. 15, Pariserstr. 17	---	5250	
34	Wandt	Hilma	27. 7. 32	Berlin	Kind	-		9		Nieder Schönbussen,	----	5251	
35	Wandt	Eva	27. 7. 32	Berlin	Kind	-		9	-	Solthoerstr. 10	-----	5252	
36	Lioner	Bartha	9.9.06	Berlin	Arb.	ja		36	ja	N. 33, Bremerstr. 22	1251	5253	
37	Chotzen	Erich	22. 1. 17	Berlin	Fremder	ja		29	ja	Schönholzerstr. 36	461	5254	
38	Chotzen	Elsa	26. 1. 25	Berlin	Arb.	ja		18	ja	dito	506	5255	
39	Beiser	Hedwig	19.10.68	Kolner	Kaufmann	ja		73	-	Berlin - Wannsee Verderberstr. 10	160	5256	
40	Beiser	Pauline	21.4.69	Santer	ohne	j		72		Wannsee, Bremerstr. 10	160	5257	
41	Arnheim	Sara	23.2.09	?	ohne	ja		32	ja	Polizeigefängnis	----	5260	
42	Michaelis	Alexander	18.11.69	Neustettin	ohne	ja		73	ja	N. 33, Pariserstr. 33	160	6000	
43	Michaelis	Hilchen	4.4.69	Anklam	ohne	ja		72	ja	dito	160	6001	
44	Saling	Gertrud	7.9.99	Lindenberg	Angest.	ja		40	ja	N. 15, Pariserstr. 33	225	6003	
45	Ginsberg	Maria	20.12. 79	Märschen	ohne	ja		72	ja	N. 33, Pariserstr. 33	611	6005	

## The Transit Camp in Grosse Hamburger Strasse



Ruth Chotzen in 2004. Source: Documentary film „Chronik eines verordneten Todes“, 3Sat

In June 1943, Bubi, Lisa, Ulli and Ruth Chotzen received their summons for deportation. They had to report to the Grosse Hamburger Strasse transit camp. They waited there several days for their deportation. Elsa Chotzen meanwhile was trying to get them released. When this failed, she came to the transit camp to say goodbye to her family. Her sons and daughters-in-law were able to throw farewell letters to her from the windows.

Ruth Chotzen survived the Nazi persecution and immigrated to the United States in 1946. In 2004, she visited Berlin for a documentary film she was participating in. The quote from the interview has been edited for clarity.

### Grosse Hamburger Strasse transit camp:

The Jewish school and the Jewish old-age home in Grosse Hamburger Strasse were converted into a transit camp in November 1942. Tens of thousands of Berlin Jews were deported from there to Auschwitz and Theresienstadt.



## The History of the Chotzen Family

### AG Deportation to Theresienstadt

*“We were arrested and taken to Burgstrasse - I think Grosse Hamburger. We lived there for a week, I think. Mama Chotzen did everything possible. She wanted to get us out of there. But she couldn't. That was really the last chance. And the boys had to leave with us because they had married us. Mama Chotzen was standing on the other side and so we waved over and she greeted us and we threw out notes and we reassured her: We are strong and healthy and we will be back. And she was standing [there] and that was terrible. At that moment she was all alone. And really, in that moment, she lost us all.”*

Source: Documentary film „Chronik eines verordneten Todes“, 3Sat



## Ruth's Memories of Theresienstadt



The Chotzens were separated from each other in Theresienstadt. Men and women had to live in separate buildings. Ruth and Lisa were reunited with their mothers who had been deported earlier. They all had to do forced labour and suffered from the terrible sanitary conditions and lack of food.

Ruth Chotzen survived the Nazi persecution and emigrated to the United States in 1946. In 2004, she visited Berlin for a documentary film she participated in. In the interview, she describes her experiences in Theresienstadt, the unsanitary conditions and the constant fear of deportation. The quote from the interview has been edited for clarity.

Ruth Chotzen in 2004.

Source: Documentary film „Chronik eines verordneten Todes“, 3Sat



## The History of the Chotzen Family

### AG Deportation to Theresienstadt

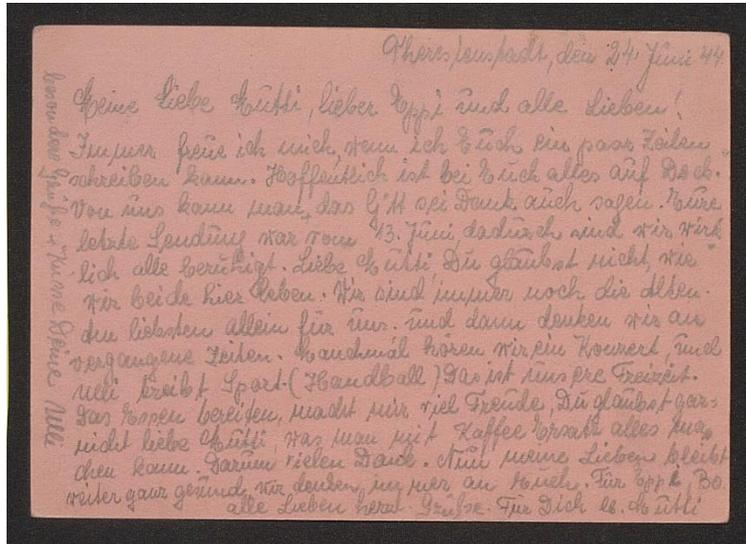
*"We didn't live together, I lived with my mother. We had [one room] and there were 20 women, older people, lying on the [floor]. Most the people were 60, 70 years old. Bubi and Ulli moved into the Jägerkaserne. They each had a [bunk bed] with straw on it. The young people lived better than the older ones. Of course. And many older people starved to death and many older people went to the hospital and never came out. Because we had encephalitis, this sleeping sickness, and we had typhoid. And the children were malnourished, we didn't have enough milk. In the summer [it] was very bad. We often took blankets or pillows and slept outside in the yards, on the stone. Because the bugs and fleas really ate us up. That was terrible. (...) Every month transports left. And nobody knew who would go on transport. And that (...) was very [nerve-racking]. And so we never knew, are we still here or are we leaving."*

Source: Documentary film „Chronik eines verordneten Todes“, 3Sat

#### Encephalitis and typhoid:

Infectious diseases caused by overcrowding and a lack of hygiene in Theresienstadt. Both diseases can cause death if left untreated.

## Postcards from Ruth in Theresienstadt



Elsa's parcels helped her family survive in Theresienstadt. She even managed to hide cigarettes in the parcels, which were traded like money in the ghetto. Each parcel could be confirmed with a preprinted card. Postcards could also be sent at irregular intervals. This was the only way to communicate between Theresienstadt and Berlin. Because of the censorship and so as not to worry Elsa, the four Chotzens usually reported only positive things.

Postcard from Ruth from 24/06/1944. Source: GHWK Archiv

*"My mother kept sending coffee substitutes in the parcels; and it was only after this horrible smelly stuff was constantly being praised that she explained the whole thing to me: she had poured out part of the tobacco-brown coarse powder, put cigarettes in it and then poured the whole thing back in again - it was an ongoing success!"*

Source: Eppi Chotzen's memoirs, 1980s. Sources: GHWK Archiv



Theresienstadt, 24 June 44

My dear Mum, dear Eppi and everyone!

I am always happy to be able to write you a few lines. Hopefully everything is on deck with you. We can say the same about ourselves, thank God. Your last communication was on 13 June, so that reassured us all a lot. Dear Mum, you wouldn't believe how we both are living here. We are still our old selves. We prefer to be alone; and then we think of past times. Sometimes we listen to a concert, and Ulli plays sports (Handball). That is our free time. Preparing meals gives me a lot of pleasure; you'd be amazed, dear mummy, what you can do with a coffee substitute. Thank you very much. Now, my dears, stay healthy, we are always thinking of you. For Eppi, Bo and all our loved ones.

Warm greetings. Special greetings and kisses to you, dear Mummy.

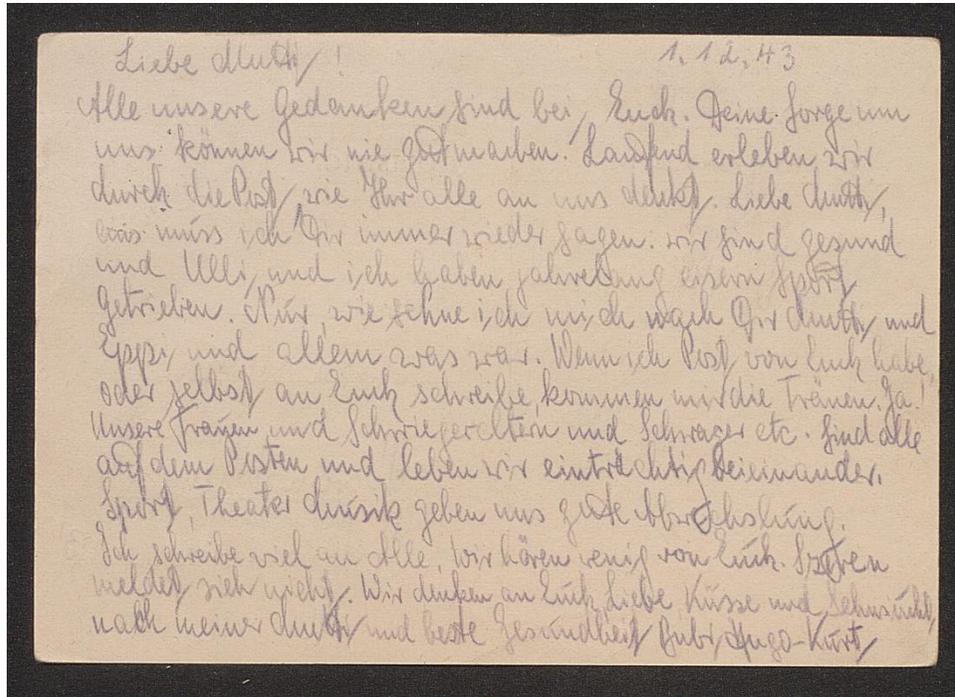
Your Ulli

Your Ulli:

Each person was only allowed to send one postcard in certain intervals. Ruth used one of her sister Ursula's postcards to write Elsa. This is why she signed it with the name Ulli.



## Postcard from Bubi in Theresienstadt



The lives of the four Chotzens in Theresienstadt were marked by forced labour and deprivation. Despite all the adversity, the people in Theresienstadt, including highly respected Jewish artists and musicians, organised cultural events. The deportees could attend theatre and concerts in their limited free time. Bubi wrote to Elsa about how important it was for him to have postal contact with Berlin. He wrote of his longing and always tried to reassure Elsa.



1/12/43

Dear Mum!

All our thoughts are with you. We can never make up for all your worries over us. We see constantly from the post how much you are all thinking of us. Dear Mum, I have to tell you one thing over and over again: we are healthy and Ulli and I have been doing sport for years. But how I long for you, Mutti, and Eppi, and everything that used to be. When I receive mail from you or write to you myself, I cry. Yes! Our wives and parents-in-law and brothers-in-law etc. are all at their posts and we are living together peacefully. Sport, theatre, music provides us with a good diversion. I write a lot to everyone. We hear little from you. Szeren doesn't write.

We are thinking of you, love, kisses and longing for my Mum, and best health, Bubi, Hugo-Kurt.



## Klaus Scheurenberg's Memories of Everyday Life in Theresienstadt



Bubi, Lisa, Ulli and Ruth Chotzen usually only reported on positive events in their postcards to Elsa. They concealed the real conditions so she wouldn't worry. The postcards, therefore, present a distorted impression of reality. The memories of Lisa's brother, Klaus Scheurenberg, provide a different view. He survived Theresienstadt and wrote a book after the war about his experiences there. He describes a life full of deprivation and mentions disputes that arose in this extreme situation.

Klaus Scheurenberg in 1939 at the age of 14. Source: Klaus Scheurenberg: Ich will leben. Ein autobiographischer Bericht, Berlin 1982, S. 55.



*“We rarely saw Bubi. He had to work hard and was with his brothers a lot. Lisa was somewhere on a doctor's ward. She was helping a dentist. Many elderly people lost their teeth there. The drill was activated by foot. But the fillings that were given usually fell out again. There wasn't much to chew anyway, and what was provided was neither rich in vitamins nor calories. Lisa did very well. After the difficult beginning, she felt better when she was living with her mother. But she suffered a lot from the vermin. But she found her spirit again. I saw her one evening after work in the late autumn of 1943. She had crawled into a corner of the yard with Bubi. She had touchingly set a miniature table on a stool I had built. She had stuck a bit of greenery into an old little tube in place of flowers. Two tin plates and two spoons completed the picture of the festive table. They ate and looked at each other. Two young people, she 23, he 25, cheated out of their lives, they had no idea that they only had 14 more months to live. (...) My brother-in-law, Bubi, had joined an outside work detachment that did gardening and agricultural work outside the camp every morning. This gave him the occasional opportunity to ‘sneak’ a green leaf of lettuce or something like that from time to time. He was a strong young man of 25 who was always hungry. In the evenings we met in the yard in the barracks where he also slept, or in the small square behind the house where my mother and Lisa vegetated. We tried then to maintain our family life even if only for an hour. We succeeded at first, but not later. Bubi began to eat away at the little bit of food Lisa had and she was too weak to protest. We did it on her behalf of course, but there were arguments. But that was not the only problem. The marriage was too young. The two of them were not yet a real partnership and so they weren't able to withstand this strain. Everyone was busy with themselves, trying to adjust, fit in, not stand out, survive. Add to that the confinement, the dirt, the hunger. The concentration camp threatened to swallow us up.”*

Source: Klaus Scheurenberg: *Ich will leben. Ein autobiographischer Bericht*, Berlin 1982, S. 66 und S. 140.

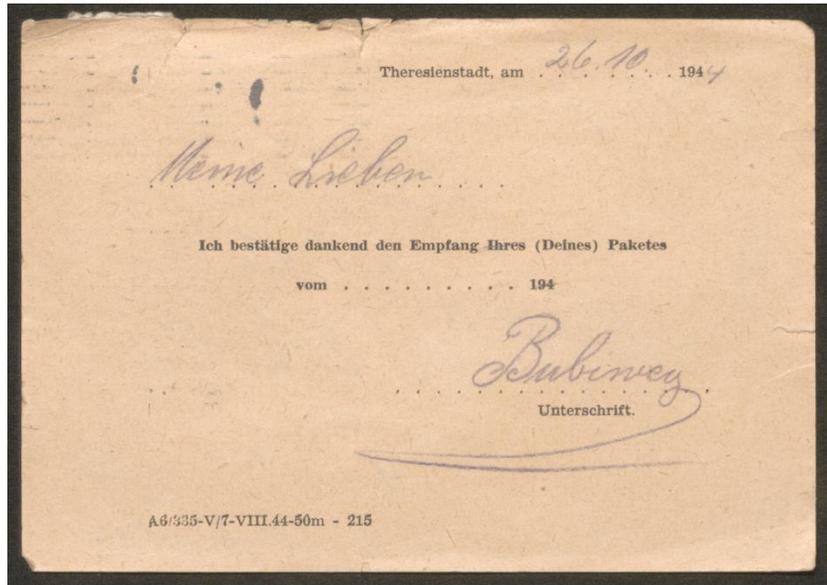


## The History of the Chotzen Family

### AG Deportation to Auschwitz and the Post-War Period

GEDENK- UND  
BILDUNGSSTÄTTE  
HAUS DER  
WANNSEE-KONFERENZ

## Postcard from Paul Scheurenberg



Postcard from Paul Scheurenberg, 26 October 1944. Source: GHWK Archiv

Bubi, Lisa, Ulli and Ruth Chotzen were unable to inform Elsa of their deportation. Lisa's father, Paul Scheurenberg, managed to send a parcel confirmation card to Berlin on 26 October 1944. It was a pre-printed card and no additional comments could be added. This is why he signed it with "Bubiweg" (Bubi gone), instead of with own name. He wanted to let Elsa know about Bubi's deportation. Elsa didn't learn where her sons and daughters-in-law had been deported to until after the war.

#### Parcel confirmation card:

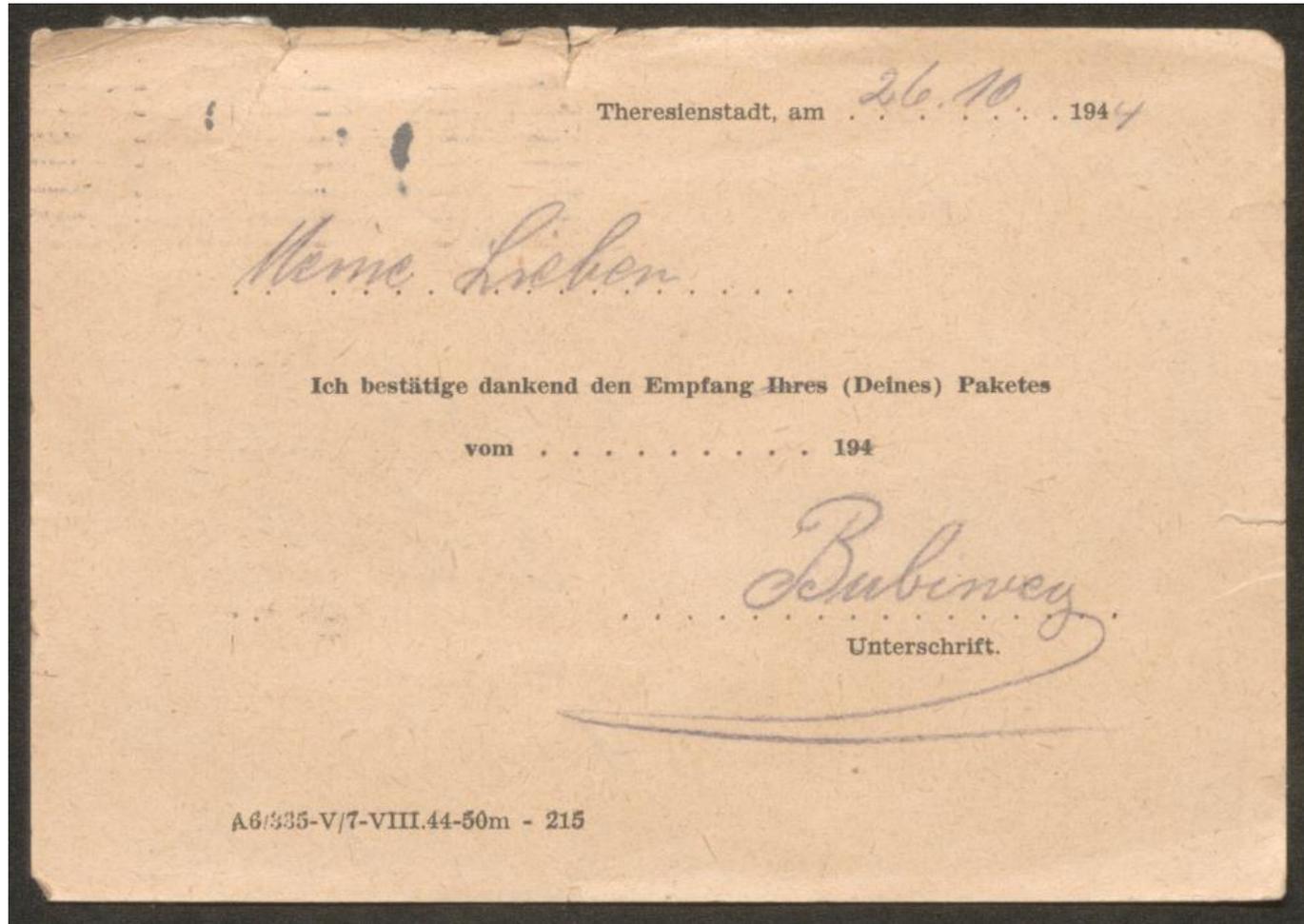
Elsa Chotzen was able to send parcels with food and other practical items to her deported family members in Theresienstadt. Recipients could send a pre-printed postcard confirming that the parcel had arrived.



## The History of the Chotzen Family

### AG Deportation to Auschwitz and the Post-War Period

GEDENK- UND  
BILDUNGSSTÄTTE  
HAUS DER  
WANNSEE-KONFERENZ





## Registry Office Card from the Dachau Concentration Camp

<b>Chotzen</b>	115623 <sup>224</sup> sch J
Hugo	✓ 29.3.15
Brunnenbauer	Berlin
10. Okt. 1944 <i>Auschw.</i>	- " -
20. Feb. 1945	v. - . isr. DR

*20.2.45*



Bubi and Ullrich were deported from the Auschwitz concentration camp to the Dachau camp near Munich in Bavaria. From there they were sent to the Landshut subcamp. In Landshut they were forced to do extremely hard physical labour. The Nazi camp system was highly bureaucratic. Each prisoner had a card file with their name, occupation, prisoner number and the various stations of their journey printed on it.

You can use the QR code to learn what the information on the file card means.

Source: Dachau registry office card file for Hugo-Kurt Chotzen, 1.1.6./10627550/  
ITS Digital Archive, Arolsen Archives

QR-Code :





The History of the Chotzen Family

AG Deportation to Auschwitz and the  
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<b>Chotzen</b>	<b>115623</b> <sup>22</sup> sch J
Hugo	✓ 29.3.15
Brunnenbauer	Berlin
10. Okt. 1944 <b>AUSCHW.</b>	- " -
<i>H 20.2.45</i>	
 <b>20. Feb. 1945</b>	v. - . isr. DR



## The History of the Chotzen Family

### AG Deportation to Auschwitz and the Post-War Period

GEDENK- UND  
BILDUNGSSTÄTTE  
HAUS DER  
WANNSEE-KONFERENZ

## Ruth's Emigration

NO. 7

Family Name	Given Name	Age	Sex	Citizenship	Permanent Address	Passport or Visa No.	Ticket No.	Rate
Yanklewicz	Jadwiga	23	F	Stateless	165 Sherman Ave N.Y. City 34	4710	53535	<del>134.00</del> plus \$ 8.--
Yanklewicz	Leibish	23	M	Stateless	165, Sherman Ave N.Y. City 34	4709	53534	\$ 134.-- plus \$ 8.--
Urban	Aron	28	M	Stateless	1424, East 46 St. Brooklyn 3 N.Y.	4682	53533	\$ 134.-- plus \$ 8.--
Urban	Pela	21	F	Stateless	1424, East 46 St. Brooklyn 3 N.Y.	4683	53532	\$ 134.-- plus \$ 8.--
Sommerstein	Paulina	36	F	Stateless	5525, Cereeda St. Pittsburg Pa.	4719	53531	\$ 134.-- plus \$ 8.--
Arndt	Ellen J.	23	F	German	JOINT Newyork	3027	53541	<del>134.00</del> plus \$ 8.--
Abraham	Bernst	21	M	German	45, Pinckhurst Ave Apt. 5 Newyork 33	3046	53542	\$ 134.-- plus \$ 8.--
Arndt	Joachim E.	22	M	German	JOINT Newyork	3026	53543	\$ 134.-- plus \$ 8.--
Bardleben	Ulrich E.	22	M	German	645, West End Ave Newyork 25	3014	53544	\$ 134.-- plus \$ 8.--
Blech	Margot G.L.	37	F	German	4049, Anherst St. Dallas(Texas)	3011	53515	\$ 134.-- plus \$ 8.--
Bode	Luise	53	F	German	34-20, 74 St. Apt. 5 D Jackson Heights L. J. N. Y.	3012	53540	\$ 134.-- plus \$ 8.--
Bode	Ilse J.	25	F	German	34-20, 74 St. Apt. 5 Jackson Heights L. J. N. Y.	3013	53546	\$ 134.-- plus \$ 8.--
Cassel	Vera-Hanna	25	F	German	JOINT Newyork	3048	53547	<del>134.00</del> plus \$ 8.--
Cassel	Friedbert	32	M	German	JOINT Newyork	3047	53548	\$ 134.-- plus \$ 8.--
Chotzen	Ruth	24	F	German	JOINT Newyork	3053	53549	\$ 134.-- plus \$ 8.--

Passenger list, 1946. Source: Schriftwechsel und Namenlisten ausgestellt in Bremen, Verkehrsmittel Schiff, 3.1.3.2/81649682/ ITS Digital Archive, Arolsen Archives

Ruth was liberated by the Soviet army in Silesia on 8 May 1945. From there she returned to Berlin on foot and moved in with Elsa Chotzen in Johannesberger Strasse. The two women waited in vain for Ulli, Bubi, Lisa and Ilse to return. Ruth was traumatised by her experiences and fell silent for almost a year. She learned of Erich's death from survivors of the Landshut subcamp in early 1946. After that she decided to immigrate to the United States. She went to New York where she established a new family and remained until her death.



# The History of the Chotzen Family

## AG Deportation to Auschwitz and the Post-War Period

GEDENK- UND  
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HAUS DER  
WANNSEE-KONFERENZ

NO. 7

F. 6-2112

1401

Family Name	Given Name	Age	Sex	Citizenship	Permanent Address	Passport or Visa No.	Ticket No.	Rate
Yanklewicz ✓	Jadwiga ✓	23 ✓	F ✓	Stateless ✓	165 Sherman Ave N.Y. City 34	4710	53535	plus \$ 8.--
Yanklewicz ✓	Leibish ✓	23 ✓	M ✓	Stateless ✓	165, Sherman Ave N.Y. City 34	4709	53534	plus \$ 8.--
Urman ✓	Aren ✓	28 ✓	M ✓	Stateless ✓	1424, East 46 St. Brooklyn 3 N.Y.	4682	53533	plus \$ 8.--
Urman ✓	Pela ✓	21 ✓	F ✓	Stateless ✓	1424, East 46 St. Brooklyn 3 N.Y.	4683	53532	plus \$ 8.--
Saengerstein ✓	Paulina ✓	36 ✓	F ✓	Stateless ✓	5525, Covedo St. Pittsburg Pa.	4719	53531	plus \$ 8.--
Arnet ✓	Ellen J. ✓	23 ✓	F ✓	German ✓	JOINT Newyork	3027	53541	plus \$ 8.--
Abraham ✓	Bernet ✓	21 ✓	M ✓	German ✓	45, Pinehurst Ave Apt. 5 Newyork 33	3046	53542	plus \$ 8.--
Arndt ✓	Joachim E. ✓	22 ✓	M ✓	German ✓	JOINT Newyork	3026	53543	plus \$ 8.--
Bardleben ✓	Ulrich E. ✓	22 ✓	M ✓	German ✓	645, West End Ave Newyork 25	3014	53544	plus \$ 8.--
Elech ✓	Margot G.L. ✓	37 ✓	F ✓	German ✓	4049, Anherst St. Dallas(Texas)	3000	53545	plus \$ 8.--
Bode ✓	Laise ✓	53 ✓	F ✓	German ✓	34-20, 74 St. Apt. 5 D Jackson Heights L. J. N.Y.	3012	53546	plus \$ 8.--
Bode ✓	Ilse J. ✓	25 ✓	F ✓	German ✓	34-20, 74 St. Apt. D 5 Jackson Heights L. J. N.Y.	3013	53546	plus \$ 8.--
Cassel ✓	Vera-Hanna ✓	25 ✓	F ✓	German ✓	JOINT Newyork	3048	53547	plus \$ 8.--
Cassel ✓	Friedbert ✓	32 ✓	M ✓	German ✓	JOINT Newyork	3047	53548	plus \$ 8.--
Chotzen ✓	Ruth ✓	24 ✓	F ✓	German ✓	JOINT Newyork	3053	53549	plus \$ 8.--

①



## Remembering the Chotzen Family (Page 1 of 4)



Stumbling stones for the Chotzen family members were placed in Johannesbergerstrasse.  
Source: GHWK

Commemorating the European Jews who were murdered by the Nazis is an important part of Germany's culture of remembrance. State institutions, memorials, artistic and private initiatives engage in commemoration. The Chotzen family members are also remembered at different places and in different ways.

The family's impressive and extensive estate, including hundreds of photos, postcards, letters and documents, is preserved at the House of the Wannsee Conference Memorial and Educational Site.



## Remembering the Chotzen Family (Page 3 of 4)



Elsa mounted a plaque for her sons and their wives on Josef's headstone at the Weißensee cemetery in Berlin. Source: GHWK

## Remembering the Chotzen Family (Page 4 of 4)



Inbar Chotzen, a descendent of the Chotzen family, processed her family's history in her artwork. Portrait of Elsa on a postcard from Theresienstadt. Source: Inbar Chotzen, 2019, Elsa Chotzen, mixed media on a postcard from 8/6/1944, 17/12cm.



## The History of the Chotzen Family

### AG Deportation to Auschwitz and the Post-War Period

GEDENK- UND  
BILDUNGSSTÄTTE  
HAUS DER  
WANNSEE-KONFERENZ

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